

AEIOU: 120 KNOWN HUMAN BEINGS

ERIC CHAIKIN

Los Angeles, California

Supervocalics are words or phrases with AEIOU once each, and no Ys. This is the first of a 3-part series examining complete sets of supervocalic people, places and things. The goal was to find known human beings—reasonably famous supervocalic people—for each of the 120 orderings of AEIOU. After copious amounts of Google searching, the feat has been accomplished.

Given the nature of the challenge, the standard of “reasonably famous” was generally as loose as necessary to fill a slot, though people needed to have *some* claim to fame greater than local renown to make the list. Of course, preference was given to internationally well-known names (Count Basie, Bela Lugosi), but just as readily to those with well-known accomplishments (meatpacker Samuel Wilson who is “Uncle Sam”, Pearl Harbor general Minoru Genda).

Some names have been mentioned previously in Word Ways (see Susan Thorpe’s “Vowel Mates” in Aug 1996, or the May 2003 Kickshaws), though most were assembled by spotting them somewhere or searching the web for specific first or last names. The list leans towards US popular culture, though plenty of international names, historical figures, and luminaries from architecture, archaeology, and even recreational linguistics appear. Fictional, mythological, or biblical characters, and commonly used nicknames, pseudonyms and titles (such as Pope or Sir) were welcomed. If someone hit the US Top 40 charts, had a major film, TV, or theater credit, played a professional or major college sport, or wrote something sold on Amazon.com, they were famous enough to qualify. The Internet Movie Database (IMDB) and on-line pro sports databases were fertile ground for quasi-celebrities, though I avoided trivial listings. In an age where almost everyone appears somewhere on the Web, it was *not* enough simply to appear in a birth, death, or phone listing, local news story, or personal, university, or company website.

For each slot I arbitrarily selected the most famous or subjectively most interesting person available. Many alternatives were possible and in some cases it was close. Charles Bukowski, Blanche DuBois, or Wilona from “Good Times” Ja’Net DuBois—tough choice! Baseball’s Van Lingle Mungo topped author Alice Munro and Soprano’s character Artie Bucco because of his great name. Sure, Thomas Cruise goes by Tom, but it was either him or the not-so-famous Broadus Mitchell. Mike Douglas won by a nose over author Dinesh D’Souza and Sister Souljah.

Most slots were filled by reasonably well-known people, but some required a reach. The toughest may have been EUOAI. Helmut Nodari, who appeared in the 1961 Austrian classic “Autofahrer Unterwegs,” is the lone entrant with just one IMBD credit. (He is surely getting more press in this article than he did for that performance.) He beat out Gertrud Joachim, who published one article in the ACM Journal in 1959. Various Zebulons and Eudoras had even less claim to celebrity. With no offence to Helmut or Gertrud, clearly we’re scraping the bottom of the fame barrel. Other slots which could stand some help: AEIUO, EOUIA, IEOAU, IUAEU, IUAOE, OAIEU.

Known Human Beings

	Vowels	Name	Description
1.	AEIOU	Charles Kimbrough	US actor, <i>Murphy Brown</i> .
2.	AEIUO	Alexis Dupont	19 th century French opera singer.
3.	AEOIU	Walter Gropius	German-born architect, Bauhaus founder.
4.	AEOUI	Francesco Quinn	US actor, <i>Platoon</i> . Son of Anthony.
5.	AEUIO	Anne Hutchinson	17 th century US Religious reformer.
6.	AEUOI	Charles Bukowski	US poet, subject of <i>Barfly</i> .
7.	AIEOU	Annie Proulx	US Author, <i>The Shipping News</i> .
8.	AIEUO	Van Lingle Mungo	ML baseball, 1931-45.
9.	AIOEU	Martin Brodeur	NHL goalie 1991-2003.
10.	AIOUE	David Souter	US Supreme Court justice.
11.	AIUEO	Maxim Kuznetsov	NHL 2000-03.
12.	AIUOE	Patti Lupone	US actress. 1979 Tony, <i>Evita</i> .
13.	AOEIU	Hans Cornelius	German philosopher.
14.	AOEUI	Marco Venturi	Italian classical musician.
15.	AOIEU	Francoise Durr	French tennis player. French Open, 1967.
16.	AOIUE	Carson Smith McCullers	US author, <i>Member of the Wedding</i> .
17.	AOUEI	Paco Underhill	US consultant/author, <i>Why We Buy</i> .
18.	AOUIE	Arlo Guthrie	US singer, <i>Alice's Restaurant</i> .
19.	AUEIO	Samuel Wilson	US meatpacker – "Uncle Sam".
20.	AUEOI	Samuel Goldfish	US film exec, aka Goldwyn.
21.	AUIEO	Astrud Gilberto	Brazilian singer, <i>Girl From Ipanema</i> .
22.	AUIOE	Austin Powers	International man of mystery.
23.	AUOEI	Paul O'Neill	Recent US Treasury Secretary.
24.	AUOIE	Paul Scofield	Best Actor 1966, <i>Man For All Seasons</i> .
25.	EAIIOU	Len Cariou	US actor. 1979 Tony, <i>Sweeney Todd</i> .
26.	EAIUO	Benazir Bhutto	Former Pakistani Prime Minister.
27.	EAOIU	Epaphroditus	Early Christian figure, Paul's messenger.
28.	EAOUI	Jean Cousin	French Renaissance painter.
29.	EAUIO	Beau Dixon	Canadian singer/songwriter.
30.	EAUOI	Bela Lugosi	US actor, many horror films.
31.	EIAOU	Keith Barbour	US singer, New Christy Minstrels.
32.	EIAUO	Neil Cavuto	US news anchor, Fox News Channel.
33.	EIOAU	Leigh Broadhurst	US nutritionist, <i>The Evolutionary Diet</i> .
34.	EIOUA	Frederick Douglass	US abolitionist and author.
35.	EIUAO	Erik Gustafson	US peace activist.
36.	EIUOA	Felix Ulloa	Salvadoran magistrate.
37.	EOAIU	Leonard Whitcup	US composer, wrote for Perry Como.
38.	EOAUI	Leonard Rubin	High-profile US copyright attorney.
39.	EOIAU	Nelson Michaud	Canadian political scientist.
40.	EOIUA	Benoit Duval	French race car driver, Dakar rally.
41.	EOUAI	Greg Louganis	US diver, Olympic gold medalist.
42.	EOUIA	Geoff Cunningham	US writer/director, <i>Rocky Road</i> .
43.	EUAIO	Deucalion	Greek myth, son of Prometheus.
44.	EUAOI	Edmund Arrowsmith	17 th century English martyr.
45.	EUIAO	Edmund Richardson	US lawyer, Clarence Darrow associate.
46.	EUIOA	Greg Guggliotta	US TV producer.
47.	EUOAI	Helmut Nodari	Austrian actor. 1 film, 1961.
48.	EUOIA	Sequoia	Linguist, inventor of Cherokee alphabet.
49.	IAEIOU	Michael Okwu	US news correspondent, CNN.
50.	IAEUO	Michael Musto	NY columnist, Village Voice.
51.	IAOEU	Richard Brodeur	NHL goalie, 1972-1988.
52.	IAOUE	Richard Boucher	US diplomat, State Dept. spokesman.
53.	IAUEO	Ivan Rutherford	Actor. Jean Valjean in <i>Les Miserables</i> .
54.	IAUOE	Brian Musgrove	NZ stock car racer.
55.	IEAOU	Michel Aoun	Exiled Lebanese general/Prime Minister.

56.	IEAUO	Mike Caruso	ML baseball, 1998-2002.
57.	IEOAU	Mike Broadus	SF musician, Planet Orange.
58.	IEOUA	Mike Douglas	US talk show host, 1964-1980.
59.	IEUAO	Sir Edmund Barton	First Australian Prime Minister, 1901-03.
60.	IEUOA	Winbert Mulholland	US horse trainer, Racing Hall of Fame.
61.	IOAEU	Nicholas Hellmuth	US Mayan archaeologist.
62.	IOAUE	Phil Donahue	US talk show host, 1967-.
63.	IOEAU	Christopher McManus	Word Ways Contributor.
64.	IOEUA	Christopher Durang	Playwright, 1999 Obie <i>Beyond Therapy</i> .
65.	IOUAE	Chris Trousdale	US boy-band singer, Dream Street.
66.	IOUEA	Minoru Genda	Japanese general, planned Pearl Harbor.
67.	IUAEO	Wilbur Davenport	MIT engineer, author.
68.	IUAOE	Wilbur Hargrove	Marshall U. football player, 2001-4.
69.	IUEAO	Miguel Tacon	Spanish governor of Cuba, 1834.
70.	IUEOA	Miguel Concha	Mexican journalist.
71.	IUOAE	Linus Roache	UK actor, <i>Wings of the Dove</i> .
72.	IUOEA	Sir Hugo Beach	UK 4-star general, retired.
73.	OAEIU	Horace Lindrum	Australian Billiards champion.
74.	OAEUI	Constance Cummings	US actress. <i>Blithe Spirit</i> .
75.	OAIEU	Logan Whitehurst	US musician, Jr. Science Club.
76.	OAIUE	Rosalind Russell	US actress, 4-time Oscar nominee.
77.	OAUEI	Omar Uresti	PGA golfer.
78.	OAUIE	Thomas Cruise	Actor. Oscar nominee, <i>Jerry Maguire</i> .
79.	OEAIU	Joe Zawinul	US Jazz/fusion pianist, Weather Report.
80.	OEAUI	Pope Paul VI	Pope 1963-1978.
81.	OEIAU	Robert Christgau	US Rock critic / writer.
82.	OEIUA	Cornelius Ball	ML Baseball, 1907-12 (Neal).
83.	OEUAI	Joe Slusarski	ML baseball 1991-2001.
84.	OEUIA	Robert Mulligan	US film director. Oscar nominee, 1962.
85.	OIAEU	Monika Treut	German film producer/director.
86.	OIAUE	Gloria Russell	US art historian.
87.	OIEAU	Orville Armbrust	ML baseball, 1934.
88.	OIEUA	Robin Ventura	ML baseball, 1989-.
89.	OIUAE	Loic Burkhalter	Swiss hockey player.
90.	OIUEA	Monique Chang	Gymnast, US national team 1996-2000.
91.	OUAEI	Douglas Leigh	Sign designer, many NYC landmarks.
92.	OUAIE	Count Basie	US pianist/band leader.
93.	OUEAI	Chou En Lai	First Chinese premier.
94.	OUEIA	Lou Kleinman	US sound editor, <i>Gladiator</i> .
95.	OUIAE	Louis Malle	French film director.
96.	OUIEA	Louis Reard	French designer, inventor of the bikini.
97.	UAEIO	Susan Elliot	US author, <i>Becoming Self-Employed</i> .
98.	UAEOI	Muhammed Konjic	UK soccer player, 1998-.
99.	UAIEO	Juan Diego	Canonized Mexican Indian ('San Diego').
100.	UAIOE	Chuck Mangione	US jazz musician, Grammy winner.
101.	UAOEI	Stuart Goldstein	US squash champion, 1978.
102.	UAOIE	Susan Brownmiller	US feminist author.
103.	UEAIO	Pudd'nhead Wilson	Mark Twain character.
104.	UEAOI	Jules Francois	US Civil War soldier and poet.
105.	UEIAO	Lucretia Mott	Quaker abolitionist, women's activist.
106.	UEIOA	Question Mark	...& the Mysterians. (His legal name!)
107.	UEOAI	Jules Romain	French writer and playwright.
108.	UEOIA	Duke Robillard	US guitarist, Roomful Of Blues.
109.	UIAEO	Julian Lennon	UK musician, son of John.
110.	UIAOE	Julia Roberts	Actress. 2001 Oscar, <i>Erin Brockovich</i> .
111.	UIEAO	Burrill Bernard Crohn	US doctor. Named Crohn's disease.
112.	UIEOA	Justin Leonard	US golfer. Won 1997 British Open.

113.	UIOAE	Luis Gonzalez	ML baseball MVP, 2001.
114.	UIOEA	Judith Vogelsang	US TV producer/director.
115.	UOAEI	Bruno Martelli	Main character in movie <i>Fame</i> .
116.	UOAIE	Rudolph Cartier	Austrian-born UK TV Producer/Director.
117.	UOEAI	Hugo Weaving	Aussie actor. Agent Smith, <i>The Matrix</i> .
118.	UOEIA	Hugo Weisgall	Czech-American opera composer.
119.	UOIAE	Udonis Haslem	College basketball player, U of Fla.
120.	UOIEA	Hugo Riemann	German composer/musicologist.

The search provided a few points of interest. Former heads of state Sir Edmund Barton and Michel Aoun join previously-noted Chou EnLai and Benazir Bhutto. TV's "Murphy Brown," produced by Joshua Sternin, starred Charles Kimbrough and Louis Malle's widow, Candace Bergen. The 1979 Tony award winners for Best Actor and Actress in a Musical were Len Cariou and Patti Lupone. Three supervocalic goalies currently tend net in the NHL—Martin Brodeur, Dan Cloutier, and Brian Boucher—with last-name supervocalic John Vanbiesbrouck recently retired. For a supervocalic actor/movie pair, see Linus Roache in "Pandemonium," or go to Mexico and rent Julia Roberts in "Mujer Bonita." Supervocalic music? Mariah Carey's "Through the Rain" was produced by Alex Richbourgh. And finally, an answer to a question from the "Vowel Mates" article: Gussie Moran's vowels pair with golfer Justin Leonard, while Rosalind Russell is a match for shortstop Omar Vizquel.

The Oxford Guide To Word Games

This is the second edition of a work originally published in 1984 (reviewed by Dave Shulman in the May 1985 Word Ways). The original emphasis was on word games, including solitary amusements such as crossword puzzles, but Tony Augarde has expanded its scope to include various other forms of wordplay: crossword clueing, kangaroo words, blends, text messaging, etc. Perhaps the strongest feature of this book are the examples of historical wordplay, of the sort covered by Bombaugh in *Facts & Fancies for the Curious From the Harvest-Fields of Literature*: riddles, enigmas, conundrums, charades, chronograms, acrostics, palindromes and anagrams. The history of the two major developments of the 20th century, Scrabble and the crossword, is competently covered, and there is even a chapter devoted to the wordplay of Lewis Carroll. Writing under constraint is featured in a chapter on lipograms and univocalics, and in sections on the classic poetic devices of bouts-rimés, centos, chain verse, and equivoque, and the work of the French group OuLiPo.

No doubt the chapter of greatest interest to the hard-core logologist is the one on word squares. As expected, Augarde has nicely summarized their origins and has exhibited the classic examples of the 19th and 20th centuries. Although the landmark 10-squares of Rex Gooch came too late for inclusion, it is regrettable that the noteworthy hand-generated 10-squares of Jeff Grant were not mentioned, much superior to the tautonymic square of Borgmann or the incomplete square by Rubin. Surely Eric Albert's unidictionary (Webster's Second) 9-square, which appeared more than a decade ago, is also worthy of mention.

This book of 294 pages is available in hardcover (ISBN 0-19-866264-5) for \$22.